



App. No. 10/705,857

Amend. dated March 2, 2006

Resp. to Office Action of Dec. 2, 2005

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~A method for producing carbon black pellets in a ring layer mixing granulator where the feed amount of unpelletized carbon black is kept constant and the water is dispensed via two nozzle holders positioned as close as possible to the inlet, each with two nozzles, where the spray cones make an angle between 10 and 90° to the direction of flow of the carbon black, at a pressure of 3-5 bar measured at the nozzles. Carbon black pellets are disclosed and method of making with an oil absorption number greater than 100 ml/100 g and an oil absorption number of the pressed carbon black greater than 78 ml/100 g, where the pellet fraction with a diameter greater than 2.5 mm is less than 3.5 wt%, the pellet fraction with a diameter of 0.71-1.0 mm is greater than 22 wt%, and the individual pellet hardness of the fraction with the 0.71-1.0 mm diameter is between 7.0 and 25.0 g. Also disclosed are Carbon black pellets with an oil absorption number less than 90 ml/100 g, and an oil absorption number of the pressed carbon black less than 78 ml/100 g, where the pellet fraction with a diameter of 0.71-1.0 mm is less than 30 wt% and the individual pellet hardness of the fraction with the 0.71-1.0 mm diameter is between 7.0 and 25.0 g. The carbon black pellets can be used in polymer and rubber mixtures, paints, dyes or pigments.~~